deeply impressed upon many characters. Though the name has well nigh ceased to be heard among us, yet the writer is pleased to believe that the spirit of James Tallman, the early settler, is yet moving about among scores of our families.

DAVID L. RUCKMAN.

Fifty years ago one of the most active men in lower Pocahontas was David Little Ruckman, Constable of the Levels District. He was tall and wiry in person, quick and nervous in his movements, and usually rode in a rapid trot. He always meant business, and when he went to collect a debt the money or property had to be in evidence. Were an arrest to be made he nearly always found the person that was wanted. His home was in the cove near Marvin, and is now occupied by his grandson, Mathews Ruckman.

Full particulars of his ancestry are given in another chapter. David L. Ruckman was born on Back creek. He had three brothers who lived to be grown. Samuel Ruckman, whose son Colonel David V. Ruckman is widely known in our county. John Ruckman went to Ohio. James Ruckman settled in Illinois. He had also these sisters: Fannie, who married John Gum. She was the mother of Mrs Samuel Harper, on Knapps Creek, and Mrs Martha Ginger, whose son George W. Ginger now resides in Huntersville, the village blacksmith. Mr Ginger, her husband, was killed during the war. Mary Ann Ruckman went with her brother John to Ohio.

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David L. Ruckman came to Pocahontas in 1832 and located at the place already pointed out. He married Priscilla Wade, daughter of Otho Wade of Highland. She was a very superior person in all the relations of life. She died in 1860. Her husband died in 1841, thirteen years after their removal to Pocahontas from their home in lower Highland.

Charles Ruckman, their eldest son, was born in Highland County. He was devoted to books and became one of the best scholars of his time. He taught school and transacted business for his father. He married Maggie Griffin, daughter of Jonathan Griffin, on Stony Creek. In the latter years of his life he became a rheumatic invalid, but in spite of pain and suffering tried to be useful to the last. He moved to Ohio, and was survived by a son and daughter, Julia Ann and Leonidas.

The second son Samuel, died at the age of 15 years.

The third son was John Wade, lately living on the old homestead near Marvin. He was born in Highland, 1824, and was eight years old when the family moved to this county. He married Margaret Ann Moore. Their son Mathews married Margaret Hogsett, daughter of Josiah T. Hogsett, and lives at the homestead. Many years since Colonel Ruckman lost his hearing. Some time before his death one of his eyes was seriously affected. Before he was overtaken by these afflictions none seemed to have better prospects for wealth and advancement and social prominence.

James Watts Ruckman was another member of David L. Ruckman's family. He first married Caroline

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Bruffey, daughter of Patrick Bruffey, near Greenbank. By this marriage there was one son, William Wallace Ruckman, who now resides near Millpoint, whose wife was Miss Lizzie Patton. James W. Ruckman's second wife was Caroline Arbogast, near Greenbank. Her sons were Renick and Otho Ruckman. Otho lives near Buffalo Mountain, beyond Greenbank. Renick Ruckman is a prosperous citizen on the homestead. Her daughter, Nancy Priscilla Ruckman, is now Mrs Winfield Slaven, near Millpoint.

In the war between the States James W. Ruckman was a Confederate soldier, and belonged to Captain W. L. McNeel's company. While on a scout near Edray in 1864, he was captured and sent to Fort Deleware. Thence he was sent to Richmond for exchange, and died before leaving the city.

Otho Wade Ruckman first married a Miss McClung, of Nicholas County. Her daughter became the second wife of Levi Waugh, near Edray. His second wife was Mary Frances Twyman, near Edray.

Clarissa Ruckman, eldest daughter of David L. Ruckman, married Peter Overholt, and is now dead.

Mary Ruckman married Jacob Cackley, whom she survives, and she resides on Stamping Creek with her nephew Wallace.

Catherine Ruckman married Peter McNeel. She is dead, but is survived by her daughter, Mrs John S. Moore.

David Ruckman, Junior, the youngest of David L. Ruckman's sons, was a Confederate soldier. He first belonged to Captain Smith's command in Greenbrier

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County. For a good while his company was assigned to General Loring's body guard. Finally it was attached to a cavalry battallion and ordered to Tennessee. He was mortally wounded near Morristown, Tennesse, and died in a few days thereafter.

Thus closes the narrative for the present. Characters have passed under our notice that illustrate what may be achieved by persons who diligently make use of their opportunities. These persons were patriotic, industrious, and endowed with good minds, and have left their impress upon their community that makes for good morals, conservative citizenship, and intellectual improvement.

ISAIAH CURRY.

Not long after the war of 1812 Isaiah Curry, a native of Rockbridge County, located on Back Alleghany, at the place now owned by Zechariah Swink. Mrs Curry was Abigail Hall of Virginia. These worthy persons are the ancestors of the Curry relationship on Back Mountain. Late in life they moved to Lewis County. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters: William, James, John, Robert, Sally, Elizabeth, Anna, and Margaret.

William Curry was a stone mason, and a very swift workman. His wife was Nancy Lytton, of Rockbridge, and after his marriage they settled in Lewis County,

James, when about grown, was killed by a falling tree while browsing cattle near home. Robert Curry

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